IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A thermoelectric material having an average crystal particle size of at most 50 nm and having a relative density of at least 85 %.

2. (Currently Amended) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein ~~an EDS analysis of a grain boundary portion of said thermoelectric material shows that~~ impurity elements have a detected intensity of at most one-fifth of a maximum detected intensity of an element among constituent elements of said thermoelectric material, as determined by EDS analysis of a grain boundary portion of said thermoelectric material.

3. (Original) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein said thermoelectric material has an electrical resistivity of at most 1×10^{-3} Ωm.

4. (Original) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein said thermoelectric material has a thermal conductivity of at most 5 W/mK.

5. (Original) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein said thermoelectric material has a thermal conductivity of at most 1 W/mK.

6. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing [[a]] the thermoelectric material according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

preparing a fine powder having an average particle size of at most 50 nm; and

sintering or compacting said fine powder under a pressure of at least 1.0 GPa and at most 10 GPa.

7. (Original) The method of manufacturing a thermoelectric material according to claim 6, further comprising the step of annealing polycrystalline body resultant from said sintering or compacting step.

8. (New) The method of manufacturing the thermoelectric material according to claim 6, wherein said fine powder is fabricated by gas atomizing method or ball milling.

9. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein

said thermoelectric material comprises a composition of at least one of Fe, Zn, Co, Mg, Mn, Zr and Ni and at least one of Si, O, Sb and Sn, or a mixture of at least two of said compositions.

10. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 1, wherein

said thermoelectric material comprises a composition of at least one of Fe, Zn, Mg, Mn, Zr and Ni and at least one of Si, O, Sb and Sn, or a mixture of at least two of said composition.

11. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 10, wherein

impurity elements have a detected intensity of at most one-fifth of a maximum detected intensity of an element among constituent elements of said thermoelectric material, as determined by EDS analysis of a grain boundary portion of said thermoelectric material.

12. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 10, wherein said thermoelectric material has an electrical resistivity of at most $1 \times 10^{-3}\Omega m$.

13. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 10, wherein said thermoelectric material has a thermal conductivity of at most 5 W/mK.

14. (New) The thermoelectric material according to claim 10, wherein said thermoelectric material has a thermal conductivity of at most 1 W/mK.

15. (New) A method of manufacturing the thermoelectric material according to claim 10, comprising the steps of:

preparing a fine powder having an average particle size of at most 50 nm; and

sintering or compacting said fine powder under a pressure of at least 1.0 GPa and at most 10 GPa.

16. (New) The method of manufacturing a thermoelectric material according to claim 15, further comprising the step of annealing polycrystalline body resultant from said sintering or compacting step.

17. (New) The method of manufacturing a thermoelectric material according to claim 15, wherein said fine powder is fabricated by a gas atomizing method or ball milling.